

JOHN J. HOFFMAN  
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
Division of Law - 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
124 Halsey Street  
P.O. Box 45029  
Newark, New Jersey 07101

**FILED**

JAN 13 2016

**N.J. BOARD OF NURSING**

By: Shirley Dickstein  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney for the Board of Nursing  
Tel. (973) 648-7093

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
	:	
MARYANN ECKMAN, C.H.H.A.	:	
Certificate No. 26NH15250700	:	INTERIM CONSENT ORDER
	:	
TO PRACTICE AS A HOMEMAKER-HOME	:	
HEALTH AIDE IN THE STATE OF	:	
NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information that Maryann Eckman ("Respondent"), a certified homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey, was arrested by the Lumberton Township Police Department on December 21, 2015 for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:20-4, Theft By Deception.

Specifically, it is alleged that while working as a certified homemaker-home health aide, Respondent engaged in the unauthorized use of approximately nine credit cards belonging to her infirmed client, represented to the client that she was using the cards to make purchases for the client's needs and instead charged approximately \$50,068.00 on her patient's cards for her own needs.

Respondent admitted to the entirety of the theft from the client in a video recorded statement to the Lumberton Township police. Respondent also admitted to writing two checks totaling \$3500.00 for her own use without consent from the account of another client who suffers from dementia.

The allegations, if proven, would disqualify Respondent from certification as a homemaker-home health aide pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:11-24.3, constitute professional misconduct under N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and demonstrate that Respondent engaged in acts constituting crimes or offenses which relate adversely to the activity regulated by the Board in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f) and engaged in the use of dishonesty, deception, misrepresentation or false pretense in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), all of which violations provide bases for disciplinary action against Respondent's certification.

It appearing that Respondent agrees to voluntarily enter into an agreement surrendering her certification, to be deemed a suspension, without making admissions and without prejudice to her ability to defend any action brought based on the above allegations, and the Board finding the within disposition adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown;

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 13 day of January, 2016,  
ORDERED:

1. Respondent is hereby granted leave to voluntarily surrender her certification to practice as a homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey, to be deemed a suspension, pending the disposition of the criminal charges against her, successful completion of all criminal terms (if any) and payment of all fines and penalties (if any) and further order of this Board. The surrender shall be effective upon the filing of this Order.

2. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from holding herself out as a certified homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey and/or practicing as a certified homemaker-home health aide, which includes but is not limited to performing delegated nursing regimens or nursing tasks delegated through the authority of a duly licensed professional nurse

pending further order of the Board. Respondent shall, within 5 (five) days of the filing of this Consent Order, mail her certificate, wall and wallet version, to practice as a homemaker-home health aide to Twalema Khonje, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

3. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed an admission of liability on the part of Respondent.

4. The entry of the within Order is without prejudice to the further investigation and/or prosecution of any violations by Respondent of any statutes or regulations governing the homemaker-home health aide practice in the State of New Jersey or any other violations of law, by the Board, the Attorney General, or any other regulatory or law enforcement agency, including, but not limited to, any pending matters under investigation, including prosecution of this matter.

5. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey certification in the future, Respondent shall:

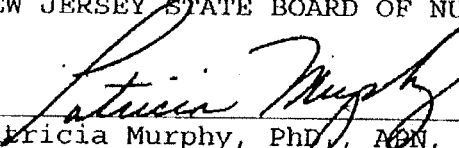
- a. Furnish the Board with documentation of the disposition of the criminal charge against her and successful completion of all criminal sentencing terms (if any) and payment of all fines and penalties (if any).
- b. Appear before the Board to discuss the circumstances of her arrest and her readiness to reenter practice as a homemaker-home health aide.

- c. Affirmatively establish her fitness, competence and capacity to re-enter active practice as a certified homemaker-home health aide within New Jersey.

6. The Board reserves the right to place restrictions and/or limitations upon Respondent's certification to practice as a homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey in the event that her certification is reinstated.

7. Any violation of this order by Respondent shall constitute grounds for such proceedings as are permitted by law.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:   
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN, FAAN  
President

I have read and understand the  
within Consent Order and agree  
to be bound by its terms.  
Consent is hereby given to  
the Board to enter this Order.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maryann Eckman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

It appearing that Respondent agrees to voluntarily enter into an agreement surrendering her certification, to be deemed a suspension, without making admissions and without prejudice to her ability to defend any action brought based on the above allegations, and the Board finding the within disposition adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown;

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*Attention: Shuley*

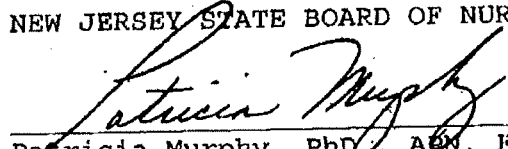
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NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

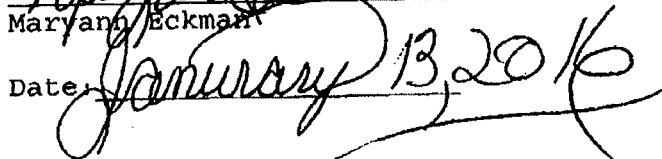
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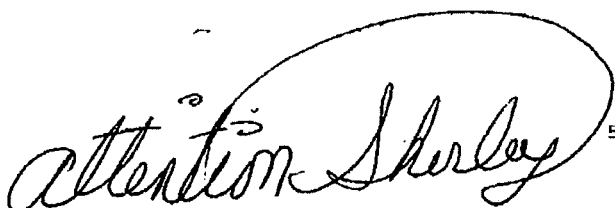
  
Patricia Murphy, PhD, AEN, FAAN  
President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.

  
Maryann Eckman

Date:

  
January 13, 2016

  
Attention Shirley

FAX-973-648-7782